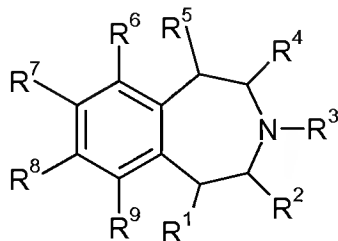


Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of Formula I:



I

where:

R¹ is hydrogen, fluoro, or (C₁-C₃)alkyl;

R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently hydrogen, methyl, or ethyl;

R⁵ is hydrogen, fluoro, methyl, or ethyl;

R⁶ is -C≡C-R¹⁰, -O-R¹², -S-R¹⁴, or -NR²⁴R²⁵;

R⁷ is hydrogen, halo, cyano, (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents,

(C₂-C₆)alkenyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl,

(C₁-C₆)alkoxy optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio optionally

substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-O-, or

Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S-;

R⁸ is hydrogen, halo, cyano, or -SCF₃;

R⁹ is hydrogen, ~~halo, cyano, CF₃, -SCF₃, or (C₁-C₃)alkoxy optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents;~~

R¹⁰ is -CF₃, ethyl substituted with 1 to 5 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₆) alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ar¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl,

Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, or 3-(C₁-C₄)alkyl-2-oxo-imidazolidin-1-yl-(C₁-C₃)alkyl;

R¹² is Ph²-(C₁-C₃)alkyl, Ar²-(C₁-C₃)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-(C₂-C₆)alkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-S-

(C₂-C₆)alkyl, phenyl-S-(C₂-C₆)alkyl, Ph²-S-(C₂-C₆)alkyl, phenylcarbonyl-(C₁-C₃)alkyl,

Ph²-C(O)-(C₁-C₃)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl(C₃-C₆)alkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-OC(O)-

(C₃-C₆)alkyl, phenyloxycarbonyl-(C₃-C₆)alkyl, Ph²-OC(O)-(C₃-C₆)alkyl,

Ar²-OC(O)-(C₃-C₆)alkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-NH-C(O)-(C₂-C₄)alkyl-, Ph¹-NH-

C(O)-(C₂-C₄)alkyl-, Ar²-NH-C(O)-(C₂-C₄)alkyl-, or R¹³-C(O)NH-(C₂-C₄)alkyl;

R¹³ is (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ph¹, Ar², or (C₁-C₃)alkoxy optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, Ph¹-NH- or N-linked Het¹;

R¹⁴ is Ar² which is not N-linked to the sulfur atom, Ph², R¹⁵-L-, tetrahydrofuranyl, tetrahydropyranyl, or phenyl-methyl substituted on the methyl moiety with a substituent selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₃)-*n*-alkyl substituted with hydroxy, (C₁-C₃)alkyl-O-(C₁-C₂)-*n*-alkyl, (C₁-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-(C₀-C₂)-*n*-alkyl, and (C₁-C₃)alkyl-O-C(O)-(C₀-C₂)-*n*-alkyl,

wherein when R¹⁴ is Ph² or Ar², wherein Ar² is pyridyl, then R¹⁴ may also, optionally be substituted with phenyl-CH=CH- or phenyl-C≡C-,

said phenyl-CH=CH- or phenyl-C≡C- being optionally further substituted with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, -SCF₃, (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxy optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and

wherein when Ar² is pyridyl, the pyridyl may alternatively, optionally be substituted with R²³R²⁹N-C(O)-, and optionally further substituted with one methyl, -CF₃, cyano, or -SCF₃ substituent, or with 1 to 2 halo substituents, and

wherein the tetrahydrofuranyl and tetrahydropyranyl may optionally be substituted with an oxo substituent, or with one or two groups independently selected from methyl and -CF₃;

R¹⁵ is -OR¹⁶, cyano, -SCF₃, Ph², Ar², quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, cinnolinyl, quinazolinyl, phthalimido, benzothiophenyl optionally substituted at the 2-position with phenyl or benzyl, benzothiazolyl optionally substituted at the 2-position with phenyl or benzyl, benzothiadiazolyl optionally substituted with phenyl or benzyl, 2-oxo-dihydroindol-1-yl optionally substituted at the 3 position with gem dimethyl or (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, 2-oxo-dihydroindol-5-yl optionally substituted at the 3 position with gem dimethyl or (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, 2-oxo-imidazolidin-1-yl optionally substituted at the 3 position with gem dimethyl or (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, 2-oxo-tetrahydropyrimidinyl optionally substituted at the 3 or 4 position with gem dimethyl or (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, 2-oxo-tetrahydroquinolin-1-yl optionally substituted at the 3 position with gem dimethyl or (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents,

2-oxo- dihydrobenzimidazol-1-yl optionally substituted at the 3 position with gem dimethyl or (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, -NR¹⁷R¹⁸, -C(O)R²², or a saturated heterocycle selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, and thiomorpholinyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, and tetrahydropyranyl,

wherein Ph² and Ar² when Ar² is pyridyl, may also optionally be substituted with phenyl-CH=CH- or phenyl-C≡C-,

said phenyl-CH=CH- and phenyl-C≡C- being optionally further substituted on the phenyl moiety with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, -SCF₃, (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxy optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and

wherein Ar² may alternatively, optionally be substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Het¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, pyridyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, and phenyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, and optionally further substituted with one methyl, -CF₃, cyano, or -SCF₃ substituent, or with 1 to 2 halo substituents,

said pyridyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl and phenyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl optionally being further substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from halo, -CH₃, -OCH₃, -CF₃, -OCF₃, -CN, and -SCF₃, and

wherein when Ar² is pyridyl, the pyridyl may alternatively, optionally be substituted with R²⁸R²⁹N-C(O)-, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-C(O)- optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and may be optionally further substituted with one methyl, -CF₃, cyano, or -SCF₃ substituent, or with 1 to 2 halo substituents, and

wherein when Ar² is thiazolyl, the thiazolyl may alternatively, optionally be substituted with (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-NH-, and

wherein the pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, and thiomorpholinyl is substituted with oxo- on a carbon atom adjacent to the ring nitrogen atom, or is N-substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of

(C₁-C₆)alkylcarbonyl, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S(O)₂-, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-, and Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S(O)₂-, and

may optionally be further substituted with 1 or 2 methyl or -CF₃ substituents, and when oxo-substituted, may optionally be further N-substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of

(C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents,
(C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl, and Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, and

wherein tetrahydrofuranyl and tetrahydropyranyl may optionally be substituted with an oxo substituent, and/or with one or two groups independently selected from methyl and -CF₃;

L is branched or unbranched (C₁-C₆)alkylene, except when R¹⁵ is -NR¹⁷R¹⁸ or Ar²-N-linked to L, in which case L is branched or unbranched (C₂-C₆)alkylene, and when L is methylene or ethylene, L may optionally be substituted with gem-ethano or with 1 to 2 fluoro substituents, and when R¹⁵ is Ph², Ar², or a saturated heterocycle, L may alternatively, optionally be substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, cyano, -SCF₃, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₁-C₆)alkylcarbonyloxy optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-O-, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-O-C(O)-, and (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-O-;

R¹⁶ is hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₁-C₆)alkylcarbonyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-, Ar²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, or Ar²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-,

R¹⁷ is (C₁-C₄)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, *t*-butylsulfonyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-sulfonyl, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkylsulfonyl, Ar²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ar²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-, Ar²-(C₀-C₃)alkylsulfonyl, R¹⁹OC(O)-, or R²⁰R²¹NC(O)-;

R¹⁸ is hydrogen or (C₁-C₄)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, or R¹⁷ and R¹⁸, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form Het¹ where Het¹ is substituted with oxo- on a carbon atom adjacent to the ring nitrogen atom, or R¹⁷ and R¹⁸, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form an aromatic heterocycle selected from the group consisting of pyrolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, 1,2,3-triazolyl, and 1,2,4-triazolyl,

said aromatic heterocycle optionally being substituted with 1 to 2 halo substituents, or substituted with 1 to 2 (C₁-C₄)alkyl substituents optionally further substituted with

1 to 3 fluoro substituents, or mono-substituted with fluoro, nitro, cyano, $-\text{SCF}_3$, or (C₁-C₄)alkoxy optionally further substituted with 1 to 3 fluoro substituents, and optionally further substituted with a (C₁-C₄)alkyl substituent optionally further substituted with 1 to 3 fluoro substituents;

R¹⁹ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ar²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, or Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl,

R²⁰ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ar²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, or Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl,

R²¹ is hydrogen or (C₁-C₄)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, or R²⁰ and R²¹, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form Het¹;

R²² is (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, R²³-O-, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ar²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, or R³²R³³N-;

R²³ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, or Ar²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl;

R²⁴ is (C₁-C₆)alkoxy(C₂-C₅)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio(C₂-C₅)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₁)alkyl-O-(C₁-C₅)alkyl, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₁)alkyl-S-(C₁-C₅)alkyl, phenyl(C₁-C₃) *n*-alkyl, Ph²-(C₁-C₃)-*n*-alkyl, Ar²(C₀-C₃) *n*-alkyl, phenyl(C₀-C₁)alkyl-O-(C₁-C₅)alkyl, phenyl(C₀-C₁)alkyl-S-(C₁-C₅)alkyl, Ph¹-(C₀-C₁)alkyl-C(O)NH-(C₂-C₄)alkyl, Ph¹-(C₀-C₁)alkyl-NH-C(O)NH-(C₂-C₄)alkyl, pyridyl-(C₀-C₁)alkyl-C(O)NH-(C₂-C₄)alkyl, pyridyl-(C₀-C₁)alkyl-NH-C(O)NH-(C₂-C₄)alkyl, or Ar³(C₁-C₂)alkyl,

where Ar³ is a bi-cyclic moiety selected from a group consisting of indanyl, indolyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiophenyl, benzoxazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzo[1,3]dioxolyl, naphthyl, dihydrobenzopyranyl, quinoliny, isoquinoliny, and benzo[1,2,3]thiadiazolyl,

said Ar³ optionally being substituted with (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, phenyl(C₀-C₁)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, or substituted with (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl, or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, oxo, methyl, and $-\text{CF}_3$,

said phenyl(C₁-C₃) *n*-alkyl, Ph²-(C₁-C₃) *n*-alkyl, or Ar²(C₀-C₃) *n*-alkyl optionally being substituted on the *n*-alkyl moiety when present with (C₁-C₃)alkyl, dimethyl, gem-ethano, 1 to 2 fluoro substituents, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-C(O)-,

said Ar²(C₀-C₃) *n*-alkyl being alternatively optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Het¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, pyridyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, phenyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, pyridyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-NH-, phenyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, and (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S-, and optionally further substituted with one methyl, -CF₃, cyano, or -SCF₃ substituent, or with 1 to 2 halo substituents, said pyridyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl and phenyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl optionally being further substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from halo, -CH₃, -OCH₃, -CF₃, -OCF₃, -CN, and -SCF₃, and said Ph²-(C₁-C₃) *n*-alkyl and Ar²(C₀-C₃) *n*-alkyl where Ar² is pyridyl, also optionally being substituted on the phenyl or Ar² moiety, respectively, with phenyl-CH=CH- or phenyl-C≡C-, said phenyl-CH=CH- or phenyl-C≡C- being optionally further substituted with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, -SCF₃, (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxy optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and said Ar²(C₀-C₃) *n*-alkyl where Ar² is pyridyl, alternatively, optionally being substituted with (C₁-C₆)alkyl-C(O)- or R²⁸R²⁹N-C(O)-, and optionally further substituted with one methyl, -CF₃, cyano, or -SCF₃ substituent, or with 1 to 2 halo substituents, said phenyl(C₀-C₁)alkyl-O-(C₁-C₅)alkyl, or phenyl(C₀-C₁)alkyl-S-(C₁-C₅)alkyl optionally being substituted on the phenyl moiety with (C₁-C₂)-S(O)₂-, or with 1 to 5 independently selected halo substituents, or with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, -SCF₃, (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxy optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and said pyridyl-(C₀-C₁)alkyl-C(O)NH-(C₂-C₄)alkyl and pyridyl-(C₀-C₁)alkyl-NH-C(O)NH-(C₂-C₄)alkyl optionally being substituted on the pyridyl moiety with methyl, -CF₃, or 1 to 3 halo substituents; R²⁵ is hydrogen, (C₁-C₃)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, or allyl; R²⁶ is hydrogen, (C₁-C₄)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, or Het²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl;

R²⁷ is hydrogen or (C₁-C₄)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, or R²⁶ and R²⁷, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form Het¹;

R²⁸ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, tetrahydropyran-3-yl(C₀-C₃)alkyl, tetrahydropyran-4-yl(C₀-C₃)alkyl, tetrahydrofuranyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ph¹-(C₀-C₂) *n*-alkyl, or Ar²-(C₀-C₂) *n*-alkyl,

said Ph¹-(C₀-C₂) *n*-alkyl and Ar²-(C₀-C₂) *n*-alkyl optionally being substituted on the alkyl moiety when present with (C₁-C₃)alkyl, dimethyl, or gem-ethano;

R²⁹ is hydrogen or (C₁-C₃)alkyl;

R³⁰ is hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, or Ar²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl,

R³¹ is hydrogen or (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, or R³⁰ and R³¹, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form Het¹,

said Het¹ also optionally being substituted with phenyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 3 halo substituents;

R³² and R³³ are each independently hydrogen or (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, or R³² and R³³, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form Het¹, or R³² is Ph¹-(C₀-C₁)alkyl provided that R³³ is hydrogen;

Ar¹ is an aromatic heterocycle substituent selected from the group consisting of furanyl, thiophenyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyridyl, and pyridazinyl, any of which may optionally be substituted with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₃)alkyl, (C₁-C₃)alkoxy, -CF₃, -O-CF₃, nitro, cyano, and trifluoromethylthio;

Ar² is an aromatic heterocycle substituent selected from the group consisting of pyrrolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, 1,2,3-triazolyl, 1,2,4-triazolyl, furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, thiophenyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, 1,2,3-thiadiazolyl, 1,3,4-thiadiazolyl, pyridyl, pyridazinyl, and benzimidazolyl, any of which may optionally be substituted with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, -SCF₃, (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxy optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and wherein pyridyl and pyridazinyl may also optionally be substituted with (C₁-C₆)alkylamino optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl, or (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-amino;

Het¹ is a saturated, nitrogen-containing heterocycle substituent selected from the group consisting of azetidiny, pyrrolidiny, piperidiny, homopiperidiny, morpholiny, thiomorpholiny, homomorpholiny, and homothiomorpholiny, any of which may optionally be substituted with (C₁-C₆)alkyl or with 2 methyl substituents;

Het² is a saturated, oxygen-containing heterocycle substituent selected from the group consisting of tetrahydrofurany, tetrahydropyrany, and oxepiny, any of which may optionally be substituted with (C₁-C₆)alkyl or with 2 methyl substituents;

Ph¹ is phenyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 independently selected halo substituents, or with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, -SCF₃, (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxy optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents;

Ph² is phenyl substituted with:

- a) 1 to 5 independently selected halo substituents; or
- b) 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, -SCF₃, nitro, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxy optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents; or
- c) 0, 1, or 2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, cyano, -SCF₃, methyl, -CF₃, methoxy, -OCF₃, nitro, and hydroxy, together with one substituent selected from the group consisting of
 - i) (C₁-C₁₀)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents or mono-substituted with hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-C(O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S(O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S(O)₂-, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyloxy, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S(O)-, (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S(O)₂-, Het²-(C₀-C₃)alkyloxy, Het²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S(O), Het²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S(O)₂, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyloxy, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S(O)-, Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S(O)₂-,
 - ii) C₁-C₁₀alkoxy-(C₀-C₃)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents, and optionally further substituted with hydroxy,
 - iii) (C₁-C₆)alkyl-C(O)-(C₀-C₃)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents,
 - iv) carboxy,
 - v) (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents,

- vi) (C₁-C₆)alkyl-C(O)-(C₀-C₃)-O- optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents,
- vii) (C₁-C₆)alkylthio-(C₀-C₃)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents,
- viii) (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents,
- ix) (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl-(C₀-C₃)alkyl optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents,
- x) (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl-(C₀-C₁)alkyl-O- optionally further substituted with 1 to 6 fluoro substituents,
- xi) (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl, optionally further substituted on the cycloalkyl with 1 to 4 substituents selected from methyl and fluoro,
- xii) (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-O-, optionally further substituted on the cycloalkyl with 1 to 4 substituents selected from methyl and fluoro,
- xiii) (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-,
- xiv) (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-O-C(O)-,
- xv) (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S-(C₀-C₃)alkyl,
- xvi) (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S(O)-(C₀-C₃)alkyl,
- xvii) (C₃-C₇)cycloalkyl(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S(O)₂-(C₀-C₃)alkyl,
- xviii) Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl, optionally substituted on the alkyl moiety with 1 to 2 fluoro substituents,
- xix) Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-O-, optionally substituted on the alkyl moiety with 1 to 2 fluoro substituents
- xx) Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-,
- xxi) Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-O-C(O)-,
- xxii) Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-O-,
- xxiii) Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkylthio,
- xxiv) Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkylsulfinyl,
- xxv) Ph¹-(C₀-C₃)alkylsulfonyl,
- xxvi) Ar²(C₀-C₃)alkyl,
- xxvii) Ar²(C₀-C₃)alkyl-O-
- xxviii) Ar²-(C₀-C₃)alkyl-S-,
- xxix) Ar²(C₀-C₃)alkyl-C(O)-,

- xxx) $\text{Ar}^2(\text{C}_0\text{-C}_3)\text{alkyl-C(S)-}$,
- xxxi) $\text{Ar}^2\text{-(C}_0\text{-C}_3\text{)alkylsulfinyl}$,
- xxxii) $\text{Ar}^2\text{-(C}_0\text{-C}_3\text{)alkylsulfonyl}$,
- xxxiii) $\text{Het}^1(\text{C}_0\text{-C}_3)\text{alkyl-C(O)-}$ optionally substituted on the Het^1 moiety with Ph^1 ,
- xxxiv) $\text{Het}^1(\text{C}_0\text{-C}_3)\text{alkyl-C(S)-}$ optionally substituted on the Het^1 moiety with Ph^1 ,
- xxxv) $\text{N-linked Het}^1\text{-C(O)-(C}_0\text{-C}_3\text{)alkyl-O-}$,
- xxxvi) $\text{Het}^2\text{-(C}_0\text{-C}_3\text{)alkyl}$,
- xxxvii) $\text{Het}^2\text{-(C}_0\text{-C}_3\text{)alkyloxy}$,
- xxxviii) $\text{Het}^2\text{-(C}_0\text{-C}_3\text{)alkyl-S-}$,
- xxxix) $\text{Het}^2\text{-(C}_0\text{-C}_3\text{)alkyl-NH-}$,
- xl) $\text{R}^{26}\text{R}^{27}\text{N-}$,
- xli) $\text{R}^{28}\text{R}^{29}\text{-N-(C}_1\text{-C}_3\text{)alkoxy}$,
- xl ii) $\text{R}^{28}\text{R}^{29}\text{N-C(O)-}$,
- xl iii) $\text{R}^{28}\text{R}^{29}\text{N-C(O)-(C}_1\text{-C}_3\text{)alkyl-O-}$,
- xl iv) $\text{R}^{28}\text{R}^{29}\text{N-C(S)-}$,
- xl v) $\text{R}^{30}\text{R}^{31}\text{N-S(O)}_2\text{-}$,
- xl vi) $\text{HON=C(CH}_3\text{)-}$, and
- xl vii) $\text{HON=C(Ph}^1\text{)-}$,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, subject to the following provisos:

- a) no more than two of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , and R^5 may be other than hydrogen;
- b) when R^2 is methyl, then R^1 , R^3 , R^4 , and R^5 are each hydrogen;
- c) when R^3 is methyl, then R^2 and R^4 are each hydrogen;
- d) ~~when R^3 is methyl, R^7 and R^8 are each OH, and R^1 , R^2 , R^4 , R^5 , and R^9 are each hydrogen, then R^6 is other than cyclohexylthio, furanylthio, or phenylthio; and~~
- e) ~~When R^{12} is $\text{Ar}^2\text{-(C}_1\text{-C}_3\text{)alkyl}$, then R^7 is other than hydrogen or R^9 is other than chloro.~~

2. (Original) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein R^7 is selected from halo, -CN, and CF_3 .

3. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~either Claim 1 or Claim 2~~ wherein R^7 is chloro.

4. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1 wherein R⁶ is -C≡C-R¹⁰.

5. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1 wherein R⁶ is -O-R¹².

6. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1 wherein R⁶ is -S-R¹⁴.

7. (Original) A compound according to Claim 6 wherein R⁶ is -S-L-R¹⁵.

8. (Original) A compound according to Claim 7 wherein R¹⁵ is Ph² or Ar².

9. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1 wherein R⁶ is -NR²⁴R²⁵.

10. (Original) A compound according to Claim 9 wherein R²⁴ is Ph²-(C₁-C₃) *n*-alkyl-.

11. (Original) A compound according to Claim 9 wherein R²⁴ is Ar²-(C₁-C₃) *n*-alkyl-.

12. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of Claims 9 to 11~~ Claim 9 wherein R²⁴ is Ph²-(C₁-C₃) *n*-alkyl- or Ar²-(C₁-C₃) *n*-alkyl-, and R²⁵ is hydrogen.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 14~~ Claim 1 wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, and R⁸, are each hydrogen.

16. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 15~~ Claim 1 as an active ingredient in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Original) A method for the treatment of obesity in mammals, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 18, where the mammal is human.

20. (Original) A method for the treatment of obsessive compulsive disorder in mammals, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 20, where the mammal is human.

22. (Original) A method for the treatment of depression in mammals, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 22, where the mammal is human.

24. (Original) A method for the treatment of anxiety in mammals, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.

25. (Original) The method of Claim 24, where the mammal is human.

26. - 37 (Cancelled)